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# Niles Daily Star

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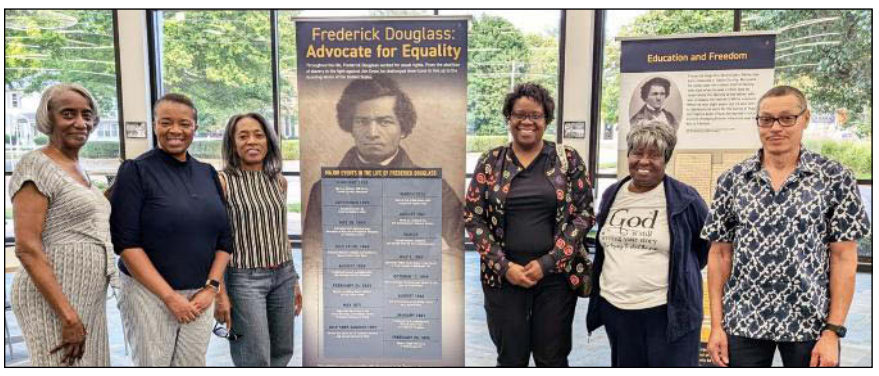
# Revived Niles-Buchanan NAACP chapter elects new officers




MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

**Elected officials and members of the Niles-Buchanan NAACP pose for a photo. From left: President Beverly Woodson, First Vice President Paulette Johnson, Secretary Freida Hughes, At-Large Dr. Alana Redding, At-Large Lavoide Wilson, Member Michael Dungey.**

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — A historical organization aiming to help address the needs of the community has returned to the Niles area with new leadership.

The revived Niles-Buchanan branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People held an election of officers Saturday, Aug. 24.

Founded in 1909, the organization is an interracial endeavor striving to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

The NAACP Niles chapter began in March 1942 and had been a voice for human equality by addressing local issues through advocacy and communication, as well as sought to educate members and the public on history and current concerns before dissolving in 2018.

Beverly Woodson was elected President and will serve in that capacity along with the other successful candidates: Paulette Johnson, first Vice President; Gwendolyn Finney, second Vice President; Freida Hughes, Secretary; Ylonda Scott, Assistance Secretary; Lorna Wallen, Treasurer; Stephanie Cashier Rodriguez, At Large Member; Lavoide Wilson, At Large Member; Cathy Harris, At Large Member; Charles Stewart, At Large Member; Tiara Williams, At Large Member; Dr. Lynn Wade, At Large Member; Barbara Kyles Morris, At Large Member; Dr. Alana Redding, At Large Member.

**See OFFICERS,** Page A8

# NEW BEGINNINGS

## Niles Charter Township breaks ground on township hall expansion

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES TOWNSHIP — Niles Charter Township will soon be able to better serve its residents a new and improved township hall.

Local officials gathered Monday to celebrate the groundbreaking for the renovation and expansion of the township hall, located at 320 Bell Rd. DJ's Construction was awarded the building project and engineering firm Wightman worked closely with township officials refining the layout and design of the project.

"The township needed an updated space to enhance its service delivery," said Wightman Commercial Market Sector Leader Stefany Holland. "We collaborated closely with township staff to identify community pain points and understand their needs for better municipal support. The process has been both informative and engaging, and I'm enthusiastic about watching the new construction take shape. The township is dedicated to providing top-notch service to its residents while remaining cost-conscious. I believe the renovation and expansion of the existing township hall will provide the necessary space to achieve their objectives.

"We're also excited to partner with DJ Construction on this project, as they appear to be a great match for the community's needs and have shown strong attentiveness to the township's goals."

After years of planning, Durm-Hiatt and the board are ready to take the project to the next level.

"I think the township board truly has been so fiscally responsible for many years," she said. "We've outgrown this building. There's issues with this building as far as the foundation and safety. It's going to be safer for our staff and provide more room. It was time."

According to township officials, the current township

**See NEW,** Page A8

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

**Niles Charter Township officials broke ground on the renovation and expansion of the township hall, located at 320 Bell Rd.**

Raquell George

# Buchanan appoints George to City Commission

**By DEBRA HAIGHT**
Leader Publications Contributor

BUCHANAN — The Buchanan City Commission is back to full strength after Monday's appointment of Raquell George to fill the vacancy left by the resignation last month of Mayor Sean Denison.

She will serve the remaining two years of Denison's unexpired term through November, 2026.

Denison resigned after a year of turmoil which included the hiring of a city manager who resigned after five months last fall, the censure of City Commissioner Dan Vigansky and competing recalls against both Denison and Vigansky. The Vigansky recall failed, but Denison was facing a November recall election against former City Commissioner Scott King.

George at age 22 was the youngest of the three applicants interviewed by the commission last Friday and had the least experience in city government of the three. Others interviewed were restaurant owner and planning commission vice-chair Tony Houser and King.

George spoke Friday about her leadership experience both as a manager at McDonalds and as an office manager for the Niles Farm Bureau office. She has worked for six years and said her parents instilled a strong work ethic in her.

She said her work experience has taught her the importance of respecting others' opinions and taking the time to listen.

"It's very important to look at all the different opinions," she said during her interview. "I never belittle somebody for what they believe or think. I take the time to hear and understand and maybe agree to disagree."

"I want to let everyone know how much I love Buchanan," she added. "I truly want to see it do well and I

**See GEORGE,** Page A8

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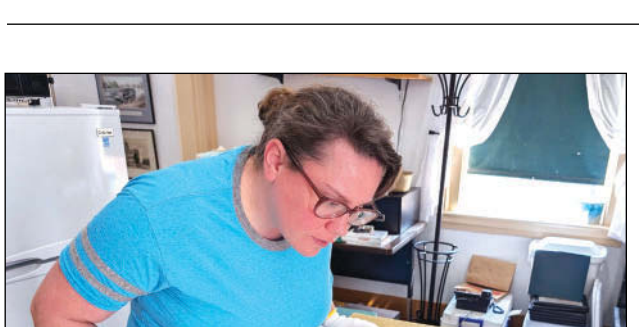

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

**Berrien County Historical Association Director Rhiannon Cizon reads a Niles Daily Star newspaper from 2008.**

# County Historical Association raising funds to create Leader Publications Archives

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — A local organization is raising funds to preserve and interpret the history, heritage and culture of Berrien County and the surrounding areas.

The Berrien County Historical Association, 313 N. Cass St., Berrien Springs, is raising $5,000 to create the Leader Publications Newspaper Archives. The BCHA recently agreed to acquire approximately 500 volumes of Niles Daily Star, Cassopolis Vigilant, Edwardsburg Argus and Dowagiac Daily News archives from Leader Publications following the business' relocation to 25 N. Second St.

"We are doing this to be able to take on 500 volumes of Niles, Cassopolis, Edwardsburg and Dowagiac history, which is obviously in line with our mission," said BCHA Director Rhiannon Cizon. "We are asking the residents of Niles Cassopolis, Dowagiac and Edwardsburg to help contribute to this."

**See ARCHIVES,** Page A8

## OBITUARIES

Franklin Gross
Henry John Demler Jr.
DeMario "DMO" Wicker
Betty Forrest
Nikolaos Giannakakis
Houmphanh "Sam" Ratsamy
George Kirkendall
Sherry E. Hilden **A6**

## FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

"My wife only runs the vacuum on Sunday during football season." **A2**

**HISTORY MAKER**
Dowagiac grad helps Calvin University win inaugural football game **B1**

# FRANKLY

## TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email scott.novak@leaderpub.com

**"My wife only runs the vacuum on Sunday during football season."**

**"Go Lions! This is the year."**

**"For a former President to find the time to send out 30 social messages a day must mean he is either a psycho or extremely bored."**

**"Neither candidate brings anything of substance to the voter. One lies, one laughs at everything. Where are the normal human beings?"**

**"US 12 is now a disaster with road construction. I guess I should be grateful that the roads are being fixed, but enough already."**

**"The Berrien County Historical Association is looking for donations and helpers to relocate archives. Great school or scouting project to help preserve our history."**

**"I can't believe summer has slipped away again. Time really flies by the older you get."**

**"I wish the politicians would spend more time talking about healthcare costs. It is so expensive to buy medicine that keeps you alive."**

**"The best thing a city, town or village can do is to protect, rehab and nurture its downtown. That is the thing we need more of to keep visitors coming and spending their money."**

**"Vote! I don't care who you vote for, just vote and take ownership of your choice."**

## WEATHER

| SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy | Sunny |
| 87° 58° | 88° 58° | 88° 58° | 87° 58° | 84° 60° | 86° 59° |

# MEET THE CANDIDATES

## RUNNING FOR EDWARDSBURG'S SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMUNITY REPORT**

EDWARDSBURG — Listed below are Q&As with candidates for Edwardsburg Public Schools' Board of Education who are running for three open seats in the Nov. 5 primary election.

**Arin Johnson**, of Niles, is running for election to the EPS Board of Education. He is currently on disability due to a work-related injury.

Johnson

**Why do you want to be on the Edwardsburg school board?**

As a proud graduate Of Edwardsburg High School and a father of three children who have attended Edwardsburg schools, I have a first hand understanding of the challenges and opportunities within our public school system. My wife is also an active member within the community doing non-profit activities, and together, he strive to make a positive impact within the community.

**What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member?**

Through the school board I hope to help achieve the full potential of our Eddie's students by:

- Investing in school safety
- investing in academic excellence and equity
- get very involved in Teacher Support and Development
- be a voice for the community and parent engagement
- add more technology and career programs
- get involved in the financial transparency and responsibilities

**What makes you the most qualified candidate for this position?**

I have been a union representative for over 2,000 railroad members. This role has sharpened my skills in advocacy, negotiations, and problem solving-skills. I have served on the Rocket Football board, coached football, wrestling, basketball and baseball. I am also a 4-H leader at the County Fair and volunteer for Hospice. These are things that have deepened my commitment to the community and I am excited to bring these skills to the board.

**Alan Miller**, of Edwardsburg, is running for election to the EPS Board of Education. He is a Production Foreman at River Valley Plastics, INC.

**Why do you want to be on the Edwardsburg school board?**

I want to be on the Edwardsburg School Board to support the educational journey of my four daughters, who will be attending school here over the next 18 years. I aim to foster an inclusive environment that promotes innovation, growth and collaboration, ultimately enhancing the educational experience for all students in our district. It's important to me to leave a lasting impact for the children of tomorrow and all future Eddies!

Miller

**What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member?**

As a school board member at Edwardsburg, my primary goals are to maintain and grow our educational excellence. Actively listen to and effectively communicate the concerns and needs of all Eddie stakeholders. By gathering and presenting factual data, I aim to assist the board in making clear and concise decisions. Additionally, I am committed to being a driving force to enhance school safety, ensuring a secure and nurturing environment where all students feel supported.

**What makes you the most qualified candidate for this position?**

I am the most qualified candidate due to my unique age perspective, which allows me to connect with both students and parents effectively. My versatile skill set includes strong communication, strategic planning, and community engagement, essential for addressing diverse educational needs. Additionally, my management experience equips me with the ability to oversee initiatives, collaborate with stakeholders, and make informed decisions that enhance our school community. Together, these attributes position me to make a meaningful impact.

**Tony Overmyer**, of Edwardsburg, is running for re-election to the EPS Board of Education. He is the Director of North American Sales for Down Under Enterprises.

Overmeyer

**Why do you want to be re-elected to the Edwardsburg school board?**

I absolutely love the Edwardsburg school system and being an Eddie! We have accomplished a lot in the past six years but we still have more to do. As an example, with passing the bond we will be going through a lot of changes we have been planning and I look forward to working through the improvements to our security, transportation, and learning environment.

**What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member?**

Be a transparent board; provide resources for our teachers and administrators to be excellent; be fiscally sound with our decisions; look for additional ways EPS can generate revenue; safeguard our school system by ensuring we have policies in place and that they are followed; extracurriculars of all types are emphasized and encouraged* engaging the community with our schools; evaluate our superintendent and provide feedback and accountability.

**What makes you the most qualified candidate for this position?**

Graduated Edwardsburg in 1988 and served the EPS board since 2019, I bleed Orange and Blue. I have been through tumultuous times during COVID and exciting times selecting our new superintendent. We failed at passing a bond and were successful at passing a bond. Always transparent as possible, vote my conscience even when not popular, committed to excellence for the long term. In short, my experience but also the drive to think outside the box and make EPS the greatest school in the USA.

**Tammy Niemier**, of Edwardsburg, is running for re-election to the EPS Board of Education. She is Vice President of Sales for a third party logistics and fulfillment company, specializing in international business for almost 25 years.

Niemier

**What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member?**

I've served the district over the last 6 years, during some of the most difficult times we have faced-including Covid. There is always more work to do, to ensure a best-in-class school system and workplace. I will continue to support the vision and ideas that are in the best interest of the students, staff and district. School safety was my priority 6 years ago, and remains at the top of my list.

**What makes you the most qualified candidate for the position?**

I am a multi-generational Eddie and graduated from EHS. I have served on the Board for six years and have done my best to keep the best interests of the district in mind with every vote.

I focus and have focused on the kids, always. It's all about the kids. I also serve in multiple facets throughout the community, trying to help make Edwardsburg better every day. I bleed orange &

**See MEET,** Page A8

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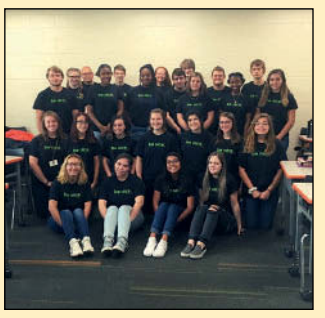

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SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

# Buchanan schools celebrate Hall of Fame inductees

COMMUNITY REPORT

BUCHANAN — Buchanan Community Schools celebrated its 2024 Hall of Fame Inductees Donald Pears, Michael Greene and Ronald Stone during halftime of the football team's Sept. 6 game against White Pigeon.

Each year, a committee of school leaders and staff members reviews nominations in three categories: Contributions to Society, Performance in School-Related Activities, and Contributions to Buchanan Community Schools. This year's honorees exemplify the finest qualities of our district and community.

### Donald Pears, Contributions to Society

Donald "Don" Roe Pears, a Buchanan High School alumnus, was recognized for his exemplary service in the military, educational system, and political sphere. Notably, he was the highest-ranking political figure ever achieved by a Buchanan graduate. His career included roles as Berrien County Register of Deeds, County Clerk, and Michigan House of Representatives member, where he served as Speaker. Active in various veterans' organizations, he also educated Buchanan High students on military and government roles. Don Pears, who passed away in July 1992, left a lasting legacy of dedication and service.

### Michael Greene, Performance in School-Related Athletics

Michael Greene was honored for his outstanding achievements in school athletics, particularly football. During the 1986-87 school year, he led the state in rushing yards with over 1,600 yards, earning All-State and All-American honors. His remarkable performance was a key factor in the Bucks' success. Greene continued his athletic career at Western Michigan University, where he further distinguished himself. His contributions remain a proud chapter in Buchanan's athletic history.

### Ronald Stone, Contributions to Buchanan Community Schools

Ronald "Ron" E. Stone, a dedicated member of the Buchanan community since 1965, was celebrated for his significant contributions to the school district. After moving to Buchanan permanently in 1977, Ron coached the Buchanan floor hockey team for 25 years and later supported high school sports, including girls' softball and middle school football. Known for his unwavering support and enthusiasm, Ron was a beloved figure in Buchanan, known for his dedication to the community and its students. He passed away leaving behind a cherished legacy of commitment and community spirit.

The event was a heartwarming tribute to these remarkable individuals, celebrating their exceptional contributions and enduring impact on Buchanan Community Schools.

# Dollar General adds produce to Niles location

COMMUNITY REPORT

NILES — Dollar General has announced it recently remodeled its store at 2561 Detroit Rd., Niles. In addition to the same categories, brands and products customers trust Dollar General to carry, the store now provides customers with an assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables.

"At Dollar General, we strive to be a positive business partner and good community neighbor in Niles," said Matthew Simonsen, Dollar General's senior vice president of real estate and store development. "Although we are not a grocery store, we believe the addition of produce in our Niles store highlights our commitment to deliver a pleasant shopping experience that includes affordable prices on quality products in a convenient location."

While DG is not a grocer, the company is currently offering fresh fruits and vegetables in more than 5,400 DG stores, giving the Company more individual points of produce distribution than any other U.S. mass retailer or grocer. Dollar General's produce set offers the top 20 items typically sold in traditional grocery stores, which includes a curated assortment of lettuce, tomatoes, onions, apples, bananas, strawberries, potatoes, sweet potatoes, lemons, limes, salad mixes and more.

# County Commission receives update on 500 Circle project

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

ST. JOSEPH — Berrien County Commissioners got an update Thursday on the county's 500 Circle project in Buchanan. The county bought the former American Electric Power office building in 2022 with the goal of moving 9-1-1 and other county departments there.

The county plans to move the 9-1-1 Dispatch/Emergency Operations Center offices to the 500 Circle building initially, with other departments utilizing the space later including a south county branch of the County Clerk's office.

Berrien County Sheriff's Department Captain Rockey Adams reported on the county's request for qualifications to companies interested in renovating the three-story building.

An initial evaluation of the three-story building space earlier this year showed that existing bathrooms, elevator layout, and building access/approaches needed redesign. There was also an investigation relative to the operational needs of the county departments moving to the space.

Adams said the county put out requests for bids in May and then received bids in July. A committee of county officials including four county commissioners went over

See UPDATE, Page A7

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Hobby Chemistry Sets
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Mercury
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Swimming Pool Chlorine
Thermostats
Thermometers

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# Eagle Lake Elementary evacuated due to small fire

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

EDWARDSBURG — Eagle Lake Elementary School was evacuated Tuesday morning following a small electrical fire, according to Edwardsburg Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Courtney Szucs.

"The Superintendent's Office and the Fire Department were notified immediately," Dr. Szucs stated in a letter to parents. "As we have practiced, the students and staff evacuated the building in an orderly and timely fashion. All students and staff are safe and accounted for."

The fire was quickly contained and the police and fire department investigated the cause of the fire, which turned out to be a dishwasher located in the kitchen. Out of an abundance of caution, the decision was made to bus all Eagle Lake students to another school in the district and to dismiss the students for the day in order to ensure safety and to air out the building. While students were awaiting pickup, they had lunch and remained with their classroom teachers.

Szucs stated that school will be held tomorrow at Eagle Lake Elementary, which will also be the first Late Start Wednesday. Buses will pick up all students on a two-hour delay schedule.

"Our school is committed to the safety and education of all students," Szucs stated. "Thank you to all of our staff who jumped in to help, and emergency personnel for their quick response in ensuring that all of our little Eddies remained safe. We would also like to thank all of our Eagle Lake parents for their patience and understanding during the early dismissal process. Together we remain Eddie Strong."

# Niles man gets prison time for possessing weapon

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — A Niles man is going back to prison on a weapons charge after being sentenced Monday in Berrien County Trial Court at the Niles courthouse.

Jeremy Michael Grierson, 38, of Niles, pleaded guilty to possession of a weapon by an ineligible person and was sentenced to 14 months to five years in prison. He also pled guilty to use of meth and was sentenced to a concurrent 90 days in jail. He has credit for two days served and must pay $248 in fines and costs.

Grierson

The incident occurred April 26 in Niles Township.

His past record includes a 14 month prison sentence for a June 25, 2021 conviction for possession of ammunition by a felon in Berrien County and an 18 month prison sentence for a July 10, 2016 conviction for felonious assault in Cass County. He was released from parole on Feb. 13, 2024.

Defense attorney Justin Workman acknowledged that Grierson has a long criminal history but noted that he has been clean since April and is working two jobs. "He's made a lot of progress, we're asking you to consider probation and hold additional incarceration over him if he violates," he said.

Berrien County Trial Court Judge Jennifer Smith said that while Grierson thinks he's in a good place, he's back in court on drug and weapon charges after getting off parole. "You made a choice to have a gun," she said. "Looking at the whole of your record, I have to take into account your whole history. Your record is terrible."

Judge Smith said she couldn't overlook that Grierson had a weapon. "I might take a chance and put you on probation if it was just the meth," she said.

Other area residents received jail sentences.

Michael Todd Folino, 46, of New Buffalo, pleaded guilty to altered registration plates and possession of forged plates and was sentenced to 45 days in jail with credit for 27 days served and $198 in fines and costs. He was given a concurrent jail term of 45 days in jail with credit for 13 days served for contempt of court.

Folino

The incident occurred July 28, 2023 in Galien.

Brian Lee Lawson, 39, of Dowagiac, pleaded guilty to possession of analogues and was sentenced to 150 days in jail with credit for 54 days served and $198 in fines and costs.

Lawson

The incident occurred June 8 in Niles.

Assistant Prosecutor Kate Arnold said Lawson has been given "chance over chance" and keeps using drugs. "There's nothing much more we can do," she said.

Defense attorney Shayne Williams noted that Lawson was recently sentenced to a year in jail on a probation violation in another case. Lawson said he has a job and housing waiting when he gets out of jail. He noted that he's in a better place now than he was two years ago when he was homeless.

Judge Smith said any change has to come from within. "Those things (housing and a job) are great but they're temporary if you continue to use," she said. "Probation is not enough motivation for you. It has to come from you, you have to want to keep your job and home."

Daniel Swain Sealey, 39, of South Bend, pleaded guilty to possession of marijuana and was sentenced to 30 days in jail with credit for seven days in jail and $125 in fines and costs. He was given a concurrent 10 day jail term with credit for one day served for contempt of court for failing to appear for his original sentencing in May.

The incident occurred March 23, 2018 in Niles.

Jacob William Tate, 21, of South Bend, pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to 150 days in jail with credit for 86 days served and $258 in fines and costs.

Tate

The incident occurred June 9 in Niles Township when he assaulted the owner of the bike he was trying to steal. "It's certainly not okay that you tried to steal a bike but it's more concerning what you did when you were confronted," she said. "You threatened him with a knife. You present a danger to the public."

Others were sentenced to probation.

Chelsy Lisa Penley, 31, of Stevensville, pleaded guilty to unlawful use of a motor vehicle and was sentenced to 18 months probation, credit for two days served and $598 in fines and costs.

Penley

The incident occurred Oct. 24, 2023 in Niles Township.

Robert Matthew Vermilyer, 38, of Cassopolis, pleaded guilty to failure to rented property $1,000 to $20,000 and was sentenced to two years probation, credit for 44 days in jail already served and $598 in fines and costs. Restitution is yet to be determined.

Vermilyer

The incident occurred March 28 in Niles Township when he rented equipment from Michiana Rental for someone else which was then stolen and not recovered.

"Hopefully this is a lesson learned for you," Judge Smith said. "You're on the hook for a large amount of restitution."

Others received credit for time served sentences.

Daniel Lee Bauman, 44, of Niles, pleaded guilty to third degree fleeing and eluding police, attempted interference with an electronic device and attempted resisting police and was sentenced to credit for 96 days in jail already served and $433 in fines and costs.

Bauman

The incident occurred June 6 in Niles Township.

Yadira Enid Cavazos, 21, of Mishawaka, pleaded guilty to possession of fentanyl and was sentenced to credit for 99 days in jail already served and $258 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred June 4 in Bertrand Township.

## PET OF THE WEEK

Meet **Sammy**, a six-year-old orange cat with Paws of Hope. Sammy joined Paws of Hope as an injured, severely dehydrated youngster abandoned in a box in Eau Claire. Paws of Hope got him all fixed up with the repair of a broken pelvis and femoral head ostectomy, a healthy diet and lots of love. Adopted in '19, however, a death in his family has brought him back to PoH. Now known as Sammy, he's ready for a home of his own. Please contact Paws of Hope, information@pawsofhope.org.

# Eastern Equine Encephalitis, West Nile virus detected in Cass County

COMMUNITY REPORT

CASS COUNTY — The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department is calling on residents to take precautionary measures after the recent identification of Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus in mosquitoes and animals in Van Buren and Cass County.

EEE and WNV are diseases spread by mosquitoes and have the potential to cause serious illness, leading to severe mental deterioration and/or death. These diseases are only spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. EEE and WNV are not spread person-to-person, person to animal, or animal to person. No positive human cases have been detected in the jurisdiction.

See VIRUS, Page A7

# Pokagon Band donates $48,400 from annual Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians is pleased to announce that it donated $48,444.26 to the Pokagon Potawatomi Veterans Society Military Emergency Relief Fund using proceeds from its 14th Annual Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament held on Friday, May 25, at Hampshire Country Club in Dowagiac. The Pokagon Potawatomi Veterans Society Military Emergency Relief Fund supports Pokagon Citizen Veterans, also referred to as "Pokagon Bode´wadmik Ogitchedaw," who are both active duty and retired military. The tournament featured a four-person scramble format along with food, drinks and prizes that were awarded in several categories.

"We are very pleased to have completed another successful Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament to help support our Pokagon Bode´wadmik Ogitchedaw," said Matthew Swisher, Chairman of the Pokagon Bode´wadmik Ogitchedaw Board. "In total we had 240 participants as well as 60 sponsors for the pre-tournament dinner and golf tournament. Through their generous support, we are proud to make a donation of $48,444.26 to the Pokagon Potawatomi Veterans Society Military Emergency Relief Fund. Currently the Pokagon Band has 83 Ogitchedaw and their needs can range from temporary financial assistance for things like healthcare and medical bills to utility bills, and vehicle and home repairs."

"We are very grateful for all the donors, sponsors, participants as well as our hard-working team members who came together to support our Pokagon Bode´wadmik Ogitchedaw and make the 14th edition of our Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament our most successful event to date," added Matthew Wesaw, Tribal Council Chairman for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. "If it wasn't for the valiant efforts of these veteran heroes, the world would be a much different place today and I am very grateful for their sacrifices. The funds raised from this year's tournament will not only serve to demonstrate our appreciation for the sacrifices our veterans have made, but also provide much needed support to our veterans that need assistance."

Funds raised for the Pokagon Potawatomi Veterans Society Military Emergency Relief Fund are distributed by the Pokagon Bode´wadmik Ogitchedaw Board.

Copper Sponsors for the tournament included the following companies and individuals: AGS; Aristocrat; Bank of America; Bodwé Professional Services Group; Buzel Long; Chi Ishobak, Inc.; Coca-Cola; Dallmeier Electronic USA; Ecolab; FA Wilhelm Construction; Fifth Third Bank; FS Advisors; IGT; KeyBank; Koontz-Wagner; Kuert Concrete LLC; LiUNA; Make A Lot of Shots Gang; Market Street Group; Mno-Bmadsen; RSM; Sysco; Wightman Associates; Wildman Uniform

Niles Daily Star

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
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Published Saturday except holidays when the postal service does not deliver mail: New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day at 25 N. Second St., Niles, Michigan, by Leader Publications LLC. Periodicals paid at the Niles Post Office, 741 Broadway St. Postmaster: Send change of address to Circulation Manager, The Daily Star, **25 N. Second St., Niles, MI 49120**. Home Delivery by mail is local: $7.50/month, out of town: $10.50/month.

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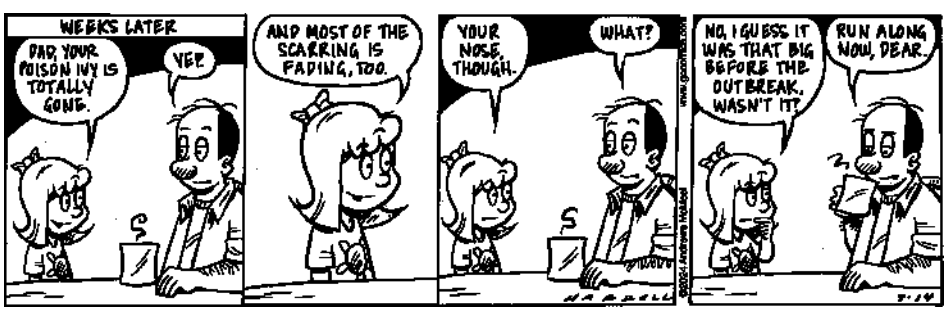
# COMICS & PUZZLES

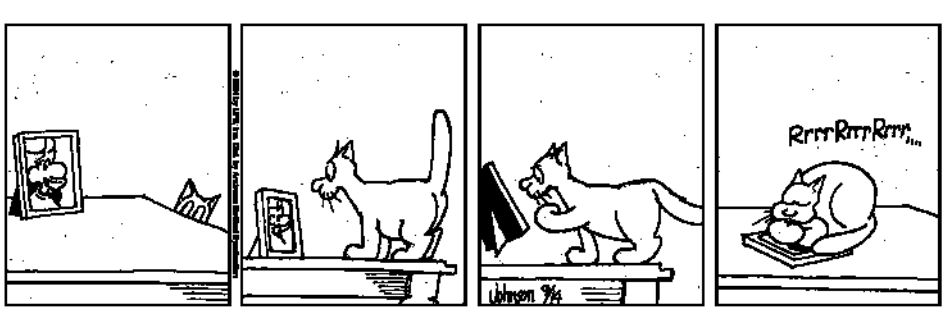
## ADAM


WEEKS LATER
DAD, YOUR POISON IVY IS TOTALLY GONE.
YEP.
AND MOST OF THE SCARRING IS FADING, TOO.
YOUR NOSE, THOUGH.
WHAT?
NO, I GUESS IT WAS THAT BIG BEFORE THE OUTBREAK, WASN'T IT?
RUN ALONG NOW, DEAR.

## ALLEY OOP

OOOLA, YOU'RE AN AMAZING HERO. WOULD YOU CONSIDER JOINING THE GOOD DEED SQUAD FULL-TIME?
NO, THANKS. I ADMIRE WHAT YOU DO, BUT I DON'T THINK I COULD DO THIS AS A CAREER.
WELL, IT IS HARD WORK. AND A HERO'S LIFE IS RULED BY A VERY STRICT MORAL CODE.
NO, IT'S THE FULL-BODY SPANDEX. IT DOESN'T BREATHE AT ALL!
STRETCHY SYNTHETICS ARE OUR TRUE NEMESES.

## ARLO & JANIS




## BIG NATE

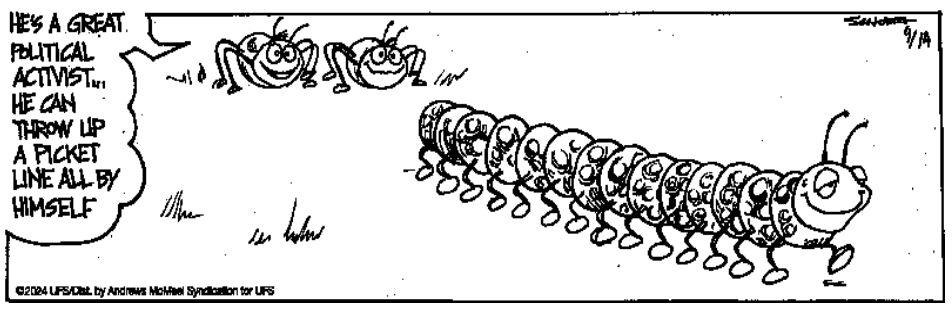
MR. ROSA, I MADE A LIST OF ART PROJECTS I THINK WE SHOULD DO THIS YEAR!
1. Glass blowing
2. Fresco painting
3. Ice sculpture
4. Feature films
TELL YOU WHAT, HERE'S A GLUE STICK AND SOME MAGAZINES. MAKE A COLLAGE.
THIS IS WHERE THE PHRASE "TORTURED ARTIST" COMES FROM.
OOH! "EXCLUSIVE PICS OF J-LO'S NEW BOY TOY"!

## BORN LOSER

I WASH MY CAR EVERY SATURDAY. I'VE BEEN DOING IT FOR YEARS, AND I'M SICK OF IT!
I'M GOING TO BUY A BROWN CAR!
WHY BROWN?
IT'S THE COLOR OF DIRT— I WON'T HAVE TO WASH IT!

## FRANK & ERNEST

## GRIZZWELLS

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## SODOKU PUZZLE

**HOW TO PLAY:** Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

**DIFFICULTY RATING:** 5/5

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| | 9 | | | 5 | | | 8 | |
| | 8 | 5 | 3 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 7 | 6 | |
| | 3 | | | 7 | | | | |
| | | 9 | 5 | 6 | 4 | | | |

## MODERATELY CONFUSED

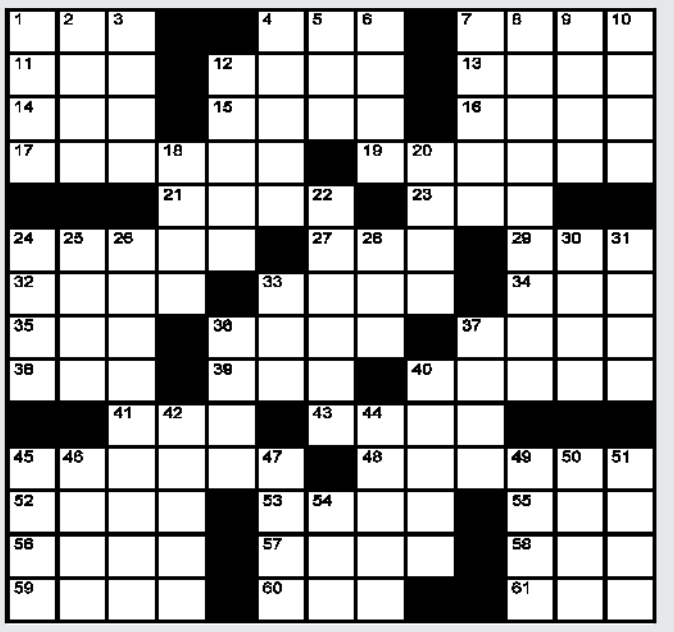
## REALITY CHECK

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**
1 Towboat
4 Shock and —
7 Parts of plays
11 "To — is human ..."
12 Boast
13 Singer — Collins
14 Swelled head
15 Walk in the woods
16 Tops (hyph.)
17 Rookie
19 Moved back and forth
21 Troubles
23 "On a Clear Day You Can — Forever"
24 Unmoving
27 Actress — Gabor
29 That guy
32 Connect
33 '60s rock musical
34 Work in verse
35 Classified items
36 Patriot Nathan —
37 Entreaty
38 "For sure!"
39 Look at
40 Student at Annapolis
41 Fleecy animal
43 Mend
45 Buzzing insect
48 Ladybug
52 Italian wine city
53 Confab
55 Lubricate
56 Opening
57 Pilaf ingredient
58 Ology
59 Men at sea
60 Letter after zeta
61 — Cruces

**DOWN**
1 Adolescent
2 Compulsion
3 Get bigger
4 "Tempest" sprite
5 Stir-fry pan
6 Pitcher
7 Quickly
8 Powerful grasp
9 Prong
10 Vehicle on runners
12 Refrigerate
18 Swindle
20 Eskers
22 — with a kiss
24 Do in
25 Neap —
26 Police officer
28 "La — en Rose"
30 — fixe
31 Potatoes partner
33 Scarecrow stuffing
36 Attention
37 Glass piece
40 Greek island
42 Bides time
44 Banana plant fiber
45 Throw
46 "La — Bonita"
47 Farmland measure
49 Labor
50 Kudrow or Bonet
51 Shade providers
54 Block-buster

ANSWER ON PAGE 6



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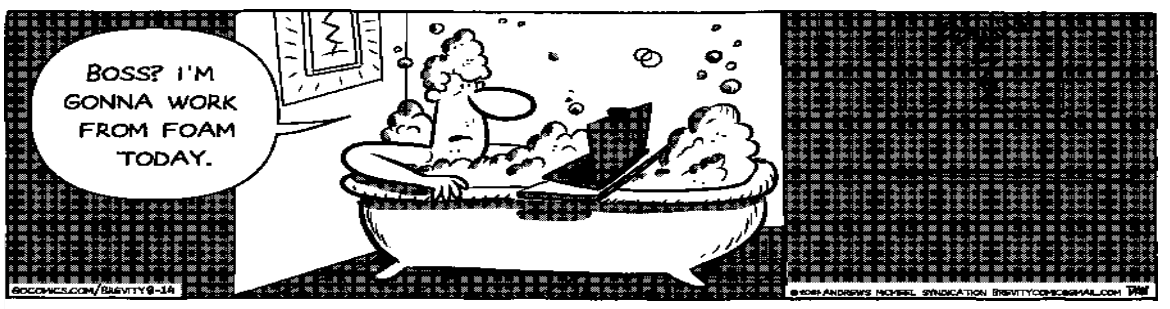
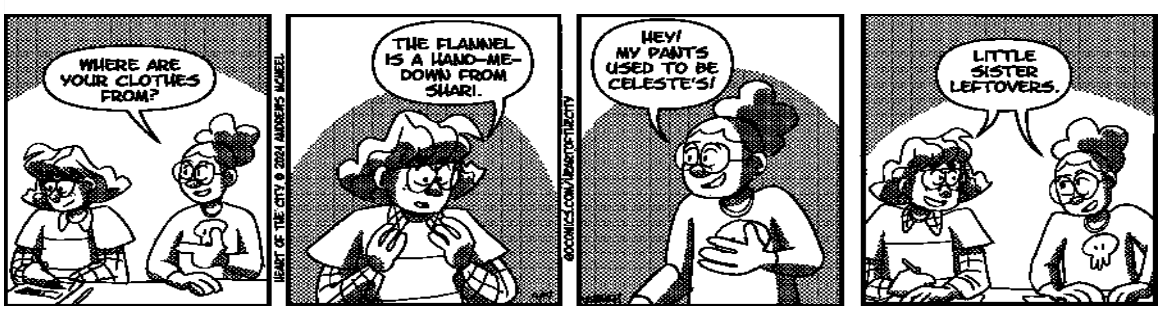
## BREVITY




## HEART OF THE CITY


WHERE ARE YOUR CLOTHES FROM?
THE FLANNEL IS A HAND-ME-DOWN FROM SHARI.
HEY! MY PANTS USED TO BE CELESTE'S!
LITTLE SISTER LEFTOVERS.

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## DEATH NOTICES

**Franklin Gross,** 58, of Fort Lupton, CO, died Friday, August 30, 2024. Visit www.Rundus.com for full obituary.

**Henry John Demler Jr.**, 76, of Berrien Springs, passed away on Wednesday, September 04, 2024. Arrangements have been entrusted to Allred Funeral Home. A service was held. www.AllredFuneralHome.com

**DeMario "DMO" Wicker**, 33, of Niles, died Sunday, September 08, 2024. DeMario "DMO" Wicker, 33, of Niles, died Sunday, September 8, 2024. Arrangements are pending at Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis.

**Betty Forrest**, 90, of Niles, died Wednesday, September 11, 2024. Arrangements are pending at Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis.

**Nikolaos Giannakakis**, 76, passed away on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, in Granger, Indiana. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

## OBITUARIES

### Houmphanh "Sam" Ratsamy

*June 11, 1956 - August 31, 2024*

Houmphanh "Sam" Ratsamy, 68, of Cassopolis, passed peacefully August 31, 2024 in the comfort of his family's presence.

His life began June 1, 1956 in Kouap Khong, Laos, born to his mother Chanhpheng, and father Sihanou.

He married Keooudone Vanhphoumy in 2003 in Cassopolis, Michigan. She survives.

Sam came from Laos, where he had been fighting in the war at a young age of 14. He found his way to America and paved a road for his family to walk on and built a foundation for a beautiful plentiful life. His passion were auto body work, fishing, hunting, and spending time with this family and friends. He will be remembered for his unwavering loyalty and a helping hand when anyone was in need and his artistic abilities to craft anything that came to mind.

His children's favorite memories of him are when he provided safety, security, wise words in a time where things were uncertain. Sam's children gain strength from his words of encouragement such as; "I'm SUPERMAN" "I got shot twice in war and I didn't die yet" "Pa can fix it, don't worry" "If there isn't a way, you find one" "One thing is..." "You have to be strong, smarter, use your brain, think outside the box, and take care of each other."

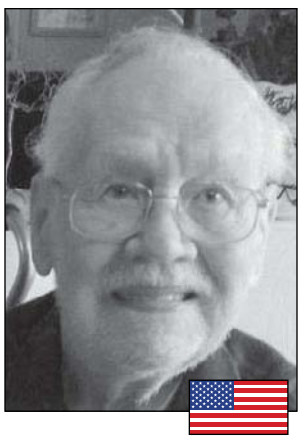
Sam taught his children that when life hits you, you hit it harder. He taught them the meaning of creativity, perseverance, perspicacity, and family. Houmphanh has not just made an impact on his family life, he made an impact on everyone he crossed paths with.

Houmphanh will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by his wife of twenty-one years, spouse Keooudone Vanhphoumy of Cassopolis; four daughters, Lisa, Shelia, Phou, Kham Ratsamy, all of Cassopolis; two sons, Keenoy (Darien) Ratsamy, Sr., Khantharee Ratsamy, both of Cassopolis; five grandchildren, Harlyn, Keenoy Jr., Huntleigh, Hazely, Kannon; one sister-in-law, Phetsamone Vanhphoumy; and his father-in-law Bounma

Family and friends will gather September 14th, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, 202 North Broadway Street, Cassopolis.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Houmphanh be made to Khantharee Ratsamy.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.



### George Kirkendall

*November 27, 1934 - September 5, 2024*

George Warren Kirkendall, 89, of Niles, died peacefully Thursday, September 5, 2024, in the comfort of his family's presence.

His life began November 27, 1934, in Niles, Michigan born to Donivan and Lucille Kirkendall. He married Joyce Miller November 12, 1985, in South Bend, Indiana.

George cherished the outdoors. He loved to fish and hunt and taught his sons as well. He enjoyed reading Louis L'Amour Western books and watching Westerns on television. Gunsmoke was one of his favorites and he'd watch the same episodes repeatedly. He was a Little League coach for his son, Dan, with his son Don assisting. Don remembers the fun he had assisting his dad with coaching his little brother's team. He was also a softball coach for his daughters Deanna, Deloris, and Denese. When they won games, George would sometimes treat the team to ice cream cones at the local ice cream shop, Kool Corner in Bloomingdale, Michigan. George's daughter, Deanna, remembers playing softball and baseball throughout the summers. He was a Detroit Tigers fan, and his son Don remembers that, because of his dad, he was able to meet Al Kaline. Later in life, and after he married Joyce, they moved to Florida. George and Joyce loved going to the dog races and playing cards with family and friends.

George proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1953 through 1955. He also worked as a realtor, for the phone company, and as a custodian at Three River's High School. Above all, George was a farmer, and farming was a way of life.

George will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by his beloved wife of thirty-eight years, Joyce Kirkendall; daughters, Deanna Daily, Deloris (Kevin) Mills, Denese (Ruben) Garrido: sons, Donovan (Lynn) Kirkendall, Daniel (Heather) Kirkendall; stepdaughters, Vicky Johnson, Wanda Wogoman, Deb Bloch; stepsons,

Larry (Theresa) Johnson, Bruce (Debbie) Johnson; several grandchildren, including, Drew Walburn, Amber Cruz, Charlina Garrido, Ruben Garrido, Gabriela Garrido, Kyle Kridler, Kayla Kridler, Hannah Kirkendall, Tyler Leopold Sr., Aaron (Sarah) Kirkendall, Meghan (Tom) McAllister, Alexandra (David) Secondi, Sheena Faes, Fawn,

six step-grandchildren; several great grandchildren, Iliana Garrido, Abby Garrido, Leonardo Diaz, Emali Diaz, Ximena Valencia, MiyKayla Garrido, Amira Garrido Baker, Briella Garrido, Adalynn Kridler, Abigail Kridler, Zoie Bober, Haylie Bober, Tyler Leopold Jr., Gates Leopold, Lillian Kirkendall, Atticus Kirkendall, Autumn Kirkendall, Vaughan Kirkendall, Amber Kirkendall, Hunter Kirkendall, Maple Secondi, eighteen step-great grandchildren; four step-great great grandchildren; sister, Jean Hubert; brother, Robert Jones; and a host of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Richard Jones, and Michael Jones.

Family and friends will gather Thursday, September 12, 2024, from 11:00 am until time of service at 12:00 noon in Halbritter Wickens Funeral Services, 615 East Main Street, Niles.

Mr. Kirkendall will be laid to rest in Mission Hills Memorial Gardens, Sumnerville.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Halbritter Wickens Funeral Services, Niles. Please share a memory or a message online: halbritterwickens.com.

### Sherry E. Hilden

*November 28, 1937 - August 28, 2024*

Sherry Elaine Hartsell Hilden, 86, of Dowagiac, died peacefully Wednesday, August 28, 2024.

Her life began November 28, 1937 in Geneso, Illinois, the oldest of six children born to M. C. "Barney" and Wilma Barnett. She first married Thomas L. Hartsell in September, 1954 with whom she had four children. She later married Afton W. "Bud" Hilden November 12, 1977 in Cassopolis. After thirty years of marriage, he preceded her in death.

Sherry never met a stranger. Her nurses called her a "feisty little woman" and "Houdini." Her birds, her flowers, and working in the dirt is what she loved the most. Time spent with the grandkids and great grandchildren was what she was all about and she rarely ever missed an event they were involved in filling many photo albums with their activities. She served as a cub scout den mother. Sherry was active in the Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.) as their historian for many years. She was also involved with the Cass Historical Society and followed her mother's genealogy tracing their family back to the 1600's. She has passed her passion for family genealogy to her granddaughter, Barbie. Sherry was an active member in Cassopolis United Methodist Church for eighty-one years, still sitting in the pew where she sat with her father, as well as singing in the choir.

Sherry will be greatly missed by family and friends. She is survived by one daughter, Charmin (Daniel) Ruth of Cassopolis; two sons, Thomas Hartsell, Jr. of Cassopolis, Timothy (Tina) Hartsell of Cassopolis; six grandchildren, Eric (Victoria Toney) Ruth of Cassopolis, Barbie (Frank) Starr of Niles, Cassie (Ralph) Conrod of Sturgis, Scott (Megan) Hartsell of Woodburn, Indiana, Emily Hartsell of Mississippi, Jeremiah (MacKenzie) Hartsell of Elkhart; eleven great grandchildren, Adam Starr, Ellie Starr, Maddie Yuhas, Allie Conrod, Kylie Conrod, Paisley Conrod, twins, Tyler Conrod and Lane Conrod, Easton Ruth, Owen Ruth, Jolene Hartsell, and one more on the way; one sister, Janice (David) Evans of South Bend; three brothers, Royce (Lynda) Barnett, Norton (Barb) Barnett, both of California, Bradley (Janet) Barnett of Vandalia; and a host of nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Scott Hartsell; her granddaughter, Katie Lynn Ruth; and one sister, Judy Adam.

Family and friends will gather Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. for a graveside service in Prospect Hill Cemetery in Cassopolis where Sherry will be laid to rest beside her parents and beloved husband.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Sherry be made to Cassopolis United Methodist Church, 209 South Rowland Street, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031, or Caring Circle Hospice, 4025 Health Park Lane, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085, or Cass County Library, 317 M-62, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

### CROSSWORD ANSWER
From Page 5

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### SUDOKU ANSWER
From Page 5

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# VIRUS

Continued from page A4

This health alert follows the detection of EEE in two horses in Van Buren, one horse in Cass County and a detection of WNV in an animal in Cass County.

In response to recent surveillance activities, VBCDHD is enhancing public health communications and education to prevent infection of EEE and WNV. Dr. Larry Wile, Medical Director of VBCDHD, stressed the importance of prevention since there is no specific treatment for EEE or WNV.

"Though the risk of contracting these diseases for residents is low, it is not zero," he said. "While EEE and WNV pose significant health risks, there are effective steps we can all take to reduce the chances of infection. By remaining vigilant and following these guidelines, our community can protect itself from this serious virus."

**Protect against mosquito bites by:**

**1. Using Insect Repellents and Protective Clothing**

a. Use EPA-approved insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

b. Wear long sleeves and pants, especially during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.

c. Consider avoiding or limiting outdoor activities between dusk and dawn.

d. Ensure windows and doors are fitted with proper screens to keep mosquitoes out.

**2. Remove Standing Water**

a. Regularly empty containers that collect water, such as flowerpots, birdbaths, and children's pools.

b. Clean out gutters to prevent water accumulation.

c. Frequently change water in pet dishes.

**3. Safeguard Livestock and Pets**

a. Vaccinate horses against EEE and WNV. Use protective measures like insect repellent. Consider stabling animals during peak mosquito activity.

b. Limit pets' outdoor activities during dawn and dusk.

c. Report dead birds to local authorities, as they may indicate the presence of EEE or WNV in the area.

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department is dedicated to promoting and protecting the health of all residents in Van Buren and Cass counties. Through education, prevention, and community partnerships, we work to create a healthier and safer environment for everyone.

For more detailed information on vector borne viruses, including additional prevention tips and current updates, please visit the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' emerging diseases resource page at https://www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases/home. The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department is actively monitoring the situation and will provide further updates as necessary. For local health information and resources, please visit the health department's website, https://vbcassdhd.org/.

# UPDATE

Continued from page A3

the bids, toured other facilities renovated by the bidders in Lake County, Indiana and in Grand Rapids and checked references.

He said the committee members ranked the proposals and had one company, Wold Architects & Engineers, that stood out as having the most qualifications and experience to do the job.

"The other firms were excellent, Wold has the experience with 9-1-1 centers," he said. "They also emphasized the time they spent on planning and risk assessment."

Adams and County Administrator Brian Dissette said the proposed contract with Wold will go to the county board's administration committee for their review and then on to the full county board for action. The bid Wold submitted totaled over $847,000 for three phases of work through construction.

The timeline the company proposed has work starting this fall and going through at least the first half of next year, he said.

The county is getting a $3 million federal grant to fund the renovations. That grant is coming from funding secured through U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg's office. The county has to spend the grant monies by June, 2027.

Berrien County Sheriff Chuck Heit told commissioners that the county ahs worked with Wold before. He noted that they conducted an earlier jail study for the sheriff's department and may be asked to conduct a new one that has been ordered.

Also Thursday, Berrien County Treasurer Shelly Weich reported on the recent tax foreclosure property auction. The county moved to an online auction during the pandemic and has stayed with that process since then, contracting with a private company to conduct it.

She said 119 properties in the county were ordered foreclosed for nonpayment of back taxes and 93 parcels went to auction. The rest will be offered again in a second online auction later this fall.

# OFFICERS

Continued from page A1

According to Woodson, the Niles-Buchanan NAACP Branch has 105 members. Elected officials and members alike are excited and ready to start a new chapter in local NAACP history.

"I'm of the thinking that if there's something wrong, you need to get involved if you can," Hughes said. "Instead of sitting back and just complaining about it and not doing anything, I wanted to be able to do my small part."

For the elected officials, the organization's revival signifies a renewed dedication to advancing civil rights and social justice within our local community.

"I can look at it as having an advocate for the community," Johnson said. "Someone that is going to provide representation, that is going to get involved and would have a purpose or something much greater than just ourselves. We're coming together as a community for a common goal. That is really what inspired me to want to be a part of the NAACP."

"I wanted to be part of something here and if it was geared towards African Americans, I really wanted to be part of it," added NAACP member Michael Dungey.

Redding grew up knowing about the NAACP through her parents. When the opportunity to become an elected official with the Niles-Buchanan chapter came up, she pursued it.

"Knowing about it through my parents, I wanted to give back to the African American community and help out as much as I can."

Wilson, who grew up in Detroit, is looking forward to making sure the Niles and Buchanan communities move forward and not backward.

"If we can do something to help us come together as a people and work together, not just as African-Americans but to work together as respecting people, acknowledge that people are human beings, acknowledge that people have rights and teach our children," Wilson said. "We don't have enough people who look like us to help parents understand that they have a responsibility to their children for the next generation."

Hughes, a Buchanan resident, has long been an advocate for the north side of the city. As a member of the NAACP, she aims to give her neighbors and community members a voice.

"We have to make sure that we have a voice," Hughes said. "We've been on our city commission and we stay on them and by staying on them, we're getting things done for the north side. So it's important that we have a voice of what's happening in our community. If one of us joins and we can talk to our friends and talk to our neighbors and get them involved because it takes an entire community making its voice known, not giving up but pushing and pushing. That's how you get things accomplished."

The reactivation of the NAACP "means the world" to Woodson, who grew up around the organization due to her late mother's involvement. As the president of the chapter, Woodson looks forward to carrying her mother's legacy forward as the organization aims to make a difference in the community.

"We will be a success," she said. "We will go forward. We will make a difference in our communities and that's what we are and that's who we are. You will see a difference because we are here. I am just thankful for the board that we have that has come together with the members. We are a working group – we will work to make a difference in these communities together. When you see our faces, we are going to be on the same page."


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# NEW

Continued from page A1

hall has served the community since the 1960s and lacks the space and the infrastructure to meet the growing demands and needs of the community and township staff. While the board originally planned to pursue building a new township hall on the site of the current hall, a feasibility study determined that it would be too costly at approximately $7 million.

The $2.4 million expansion and renovation will add approximately 3,100 square feet of space to the building, which will provide more space for staff as well as storage space for important documents and election equipment.

The meeting room will have its own entrance on the west side of the building and township services will also be located on the west side. Township Supervisor Marge Durm-Hiatt said the project is expected to take approximately 270 days to complete with an estimated completion date of May 2025.

Township officials said the project would be funded using approximately $1.5 million from the township's fund balance and approximately $400,000 from American Rescue Plan Act funds with the remaining cost being paid for by financing.

The township's new temporary home is the Greater Niles Senior Center, 1109 Bell Rd., where the township provides services at traditional hours.

# GEORGE

Continued from page A1

want to see it thrive in the years and decades to come. I want it to be a place I can bring my kids and raise them because Buchanan is the best town."

She said that while it may seem scary to take on the responsibilities of a city commissioner at her young age, she believes she's ready to learn all she can to serve the city.

"In the Bible it says that the younger people learn from the older people," she said. "I feel like young people have to be ready to learn and be prepared."

George sounded similar themes in the information she presented to the commission with her application. She said she wants to see the city flourish, bring in fresh ideas and hear the ideas/concerns of others. Her primary goal is to make sure Buchanan remains a "healthy, safe family friendly environment."

"I am a firm believer Buchanan should remain the All American, Small Town, Big Hearts, Beautiful city that it has always been," she wrote. "... I want to see Buchanan grow. I want to see new businesses, less empty buildings, and more community events for the families and friends of this city. Something that will insure stability and a future for our beloved town."

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
**The Buchanan City Commission meets for its Monday session.**

Monday's appointment of George came as a surprise to some. Vigansky made the motion to appoint George and received a second from Commissioner Larry Money. There was no discussion and she was appointed on a unanimous vote with Mayor Mark Weedon and Commissioner Patrick Swem also voting yes.

George was then sworn in by City Clerk Kalla Langston and took her seat next to fellow commissioners.

Houser, who is also running for a full four-year term in November against Money, Swem and two other challengers, had appeared to be the favorite to get the appointment. Not only did three residents speak in support of Houser at the start of Monday's meeting, the questions asked during the interviews Friday seemed to play to Houser's strengths.

The bulk of the questions from commissioners emphasized applicants' actions over the last year which appeared to favor Houser who is the only one of the three currently active on local boards and committees and has come to nearly all city commission meetings over the last four years.

In addition to owning a local restaurant and being on the planning commission, Houser is vice-chair of the Buchanan Preservation Society and is on the board of the Buchanan Area Senior Center and the Buchanan-Galien Lions Club. He previously was on the board of LiveBuchanan.

In addition to George's appointment to the commission, commissioners approved demolition specifications for the former Buchanan Feed Mill property at 111 Railroad St., a restaurant incentive grant for Haley Jones of "Chunk's Ice Cream" and started the process to establish a new special assessment district for SMCAS.

Community Development Director Rich Murphy reported to commissioners that the city has been assured by Berrien County officials that they will get a $220,000 grant from the County Land Bank to pay for the bulk of the demolition expenses.

Murphy also reported on Jones' request for a restaurant incentive grant. The program requires businesses to spend $17,000 or more to get a $10,000 grant. Jones has actually spent more than $49,000 to get Chunk's up and running in the former Clark Equipment guard house.

With SMCAS, the commission will hold a public hearing on Sept. 23 to hear any objections to the forming of a special assessment district. Langston said the commission will have to act at two more meetings before Oct. 23 to get the special assessment on the upcoming winter taxes.

She said the special assessment will be for five years with the per parcel or unit assessment rising from $40 this year to $45 next year and $50 for the remaining three years.

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# ARCHIVES

Continued from page A1

Founded in 1968 to save and restore the historic 1839 Berrien County Courthouse as a historical museum, in partnership with Berrien County, the BCHA has expanded its mission to preserve and interpret the history, heritage and culture of Berrien County and the surrounding areas. To do so, the organization serves as the stewards to the History Center at Courthouse Square, which includes the Courthouse, the 1830 Murdoch Log Cabin, the 1870 Sheriff's Residence, the 1860 Records Building and Bennett's Forge.

"Obviously our responsibility is Berrien County but there will always be shared regional history we have, especially here in Niles because there's a lot here with Cassopolis and you know Dowagiac and Cass County," Cizon said. "It's important that folks feel that they're getting their dollar's worth and we would be very happy if a donor wants to see the space and what we plan on doing with the space, I am happy to walk them through it and show them kind of what we plan on purchasing."

**The funds will help cover:**

• Professional movers to ensure the 500+ volumes of bound newspapers travels from Niles to Berrien Springs safely

• Improved environmental controls for the short term holding space inside the Records Building, including window coverings, trash removal, upgrade pest control systems, and a portable (de)humidifier

• Additional needs for shelving unit construction

• Archival-grade storage for the oldest papers in the collection

Once moved, books would be available for research by appointment.

Cizon said donations will be accepted at the BCHA, which takes cash, check or card. Checks can also be mailed to the BCHA. Additionally, readers can donate online.

"I know we have a lot of history in Berrien County and people just don't understand how deep that history goes," Cizon said. "Our responsibility is to preserve and protect the history of Berrien County and that is through collecting and managing our archives and collections, it is through the development and presentation of temporary and permanent exhibits at the museum and it is through programs and events that both reflect past and present issues in Berrien County."

# MEET

Continued from page A2

blue.

**Nick Yoder**, of Edwardsburg, is running for election to the EPS Board of Education. He is an On-Premise Sales Consultant for Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits.

Yoder

**Why do you want to be on the Edwardsburg school board?**

My wife, an Edwardsburg graduate, and I moved to Edwardsburg 12 years ago for the schools because they have long had a reputation as some of the best. I want to continue that tradition while looking forward and adapting to current needs. I believe public education is one of the greatest services this country provides and we need strong leadership to continue to ensure opportunity for all and restore trust and respect for our schools.

**What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member?**

I hope to create a culture that celebrates and respects all students and staff, that encourages concerns to be brought up without fear of retaliation, and prepares our children for the future. I want to bring back joy and respect for a profession that has long been under-respected. As we all continue to learn, I hope to adapt to changing needs and leave EPS even better than I found it.

**What makes you the most qualified candidate for this position?**

With several family members in public education and several years spent substitute teaching, I understand the difficulties facing our schools. Coaching sports, participating in teacher appreciation weeks, and regularly following board meetings and sharing that information displays my community involvement. I'm a high-achiever who values continuous learning. When contentious issues arise, I listen and provide a calming voice that shows a productive path forward. Having two EPS students gives me a stake in its success.

Niles Daily Star
# Sports

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

# Niles rebounds with 46-0 win over rival Lakeshore

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — Niles head coach Scot Shaw said his team talked in great detail this week about needing to respond against Lakeshore after its disappointing loss to St. Joseph in the season opener. The Vikings responded to the tune of a 46-0 victory over the Lancers Friday night in their home opener.

The 46-point win over the Lancers is the largest margin of victory for either team in head-to-head history and was the Vikings' first win over the Lancers since 2003.

"Across the board, our performances were much better this week than they were last week," Shaw said.

The Lancers (0-2) had no answers for the Vikings (1-1) offense, which outgained the visitors 532-169 in total yards and 478-85 in rushing yards. Niles scored on runs of 30 (Elijah Norris), 45 (Peyton Gordon) and 75 (Sam Rucker) yards to lead 20-0 after one quarter. Sam Rucker (39 yards) and Paul Hess (13 yards) scored touchdowns in the second quarter to lift the Vikings to a 32-0 halftime lead.

Sam Rucker finished with nine carries for 161 yards and two touchdowns and Hess added 19 carries for 119 yards and one touchdown run, all of which came in the first half. Norris tallied nine carries for 96 yards and a touchdown and Peyton Gordon had two caarries for 47 yards and a score.

Shaw said the team missed Hess in last week's game and

**See WIN,** Page B3

**MAXWELL HARDEN** | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# SMC alum Thomas' Jersey to hang in Hall of Fame

**COMMUNITY REPORT**

TENNESSEE — The Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tennessee, has formally requested one of Cameron Thomas' No. 21 Roadrunner jerseys to be displayed in their Ring of Honor.

The 100 jerseys hanging in the North Rotunda represent some of the nation's finest basketball players of the year. Past honorees include Candace Parker, Sue Bird, Kelsey Plum, Brittney Griner, Arike Ogunbowale, Caitlin Clark, Breanna Stewart, and A'ja Wilson.

Thomas, a 2024 SMC alum, was named an NJCAA All-American for her sophomore season of 2023-2024, leading the Roadrunners to MCCAA Western Conference and Great Lakes District championships on the way to the NJCAA national tournament. She holds 19 SMC scoring records and is currently in Florida preparing for her junior season with the NCAA Division 1 Stetson University Hatters.

Thomas' jersey will be on display in the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame Ring of Honor until October 2025.

**SUBMITTED** | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

## St. Joseph edges Edwardsburg 36-29

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

EDWARDSBURG — The Edwardsburg football team came up just short against visiting St. Joseph Friday, Sept. 14.

The Eddies closed the distance with a late-game Grady Ostrander touchdown run before falling 36-29 to the Bears.

St. Joseph (2-0) outgained Edwardsburg (1-1) 389-338 in total yards, though Edwardsburg out rushed the Bears 313-152. St. Joseph took a 14-7 lead into halftime and led by as many as 16 points in the second half.

Quarterback Joe Lundgren completed 3 of 4 passes for 25 yards, including a 13-yard touchdown pass to Brody Schimpa. Ostrander had 15 carries for 146 yards and three touchdowns on runs of 12, 62 and 9 yards. Carsen Cebra had 19 carries for 102 yards and Grant Griffin had 11 carries for 31 yards. The Eddies were without the services of quarterback Zeke Pegura, who is recovering from an injury sustained in Week 1.

Charles Halstead had 80 yards on 15 carries and two touchdown runs for St. Joseph. Quarterback Davis Crossman completed 7 of 14 passes for 237 yards and three touchdown passes, all to Blayke Sicurello who caught five passes for 158 yards.

On defense, Cebra and Griffin led the Eddies with six and five tackles respectively while Isaac Codde led St. Joseph with 15.

*The Eddies faced Plainwell on the road Friday night in Week 3 action. The recap of that game will be found online at leaderpub.com and will be in the Sept. 21 print edition of the newspaper.*

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

"As a freshman, I'm waiting to get in and when I get out there, for the first couple seconds it really hits me that I'm playing college football. That was really nice. Nothing felt different from practice. We've been doing things over and over since fall camp started so it was pretty much second nature to us. Everyone was locked in and ready for the game."

— Isiah Hill

# HISTORY MAKER

## Dowagiac grad helps Calvin University win inaugural football game

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

GRAND RAPIDS — The newest football program in the country earned a victory in its first-ever game Saturday and a Dowagiac native was a key reason why.

The Calvin University football team defeated Oberlin College 50-6 Saturday, Sept. 7 at Grand Rapids Christian High School to win its inaugural football game. CU freshman and former Dowagiac standout Isiah Hill saw significant time on the defensive line and helped the Knights secure its first-ever victory.

"As a freshman, I'm waiting to get in and when I get out there, for the first couple seconds it really hits me that I'm playing college football," Hill said. "That was really nice. Nothing felt different from practice. We've been doing things over and over since fall camp started so it was pretty much second nature to us. Everyone was locked in and ready for the game."

Hill helped pressure OC quarterback Drew Nye into making errant throws. Nye completed 15 of 34 passes for 117 yards, 1 touchdown and 3 interceptions. Fittingly, the first two points in Calvin history were scored by its defense as the Knights forced Oberlin into a safety after an intentional grounding in the end zone late in the first quarter.

The quick two-point lead gave Calvin a new surge of momentum after its offense struggled to gain a rhythm early in the contest.

"That felt great," Hill said. "From the jump, the defense was super hot. We were making great pressure and forced the quarterback to get out of the pocket, make bad throws and toss interceptions. When we got that safety, the whole defense was jumping up and down. It was a great moment."

Founded in 1876, Calvin University did not have a football program until its Board of Trustees approved the addition of football as a varsity sport in Oct. 2022. For 18 months, players and coaches were waiting for this moment to arrive. Students, parents and alumni packed the stands to experience a moment 148 years in the making.

"The atmosphere was definitely huge," Hill said. "Seeing everyone likes to come together stood out a lot because you really see how important football

**See GRAD,** Page B3

PHOTO COURTESY OF CALVIN UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
**Isiah Hill (42) takes the field for Calvin University's first inaugural football game against Oberlin College Saturday at Grand Rapids Christian High School.**

HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

# Niles cross country sweeps Fennville Open

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

FENNVILLE — The Niles cross country teams made their presence known in last Saturday's Fenn Open in Fennville.

The Vikings boys and girls teams both took first place in the event. The boys tallied 44 points and runner-up Parchment had 46. Sophomore Beau Kirkdoll finished fourth overall with a time of 18:29. Teammates Liam Pesce (18:56), Ceon Kirkdoll (18:56) and Jacob Erickson (19:41) placed seventh, eighth and 14th respectively.

For the girls, the Vikings scored 35 points to earn first place, eight points ahead of runner-up Martin. Senior Charlie Drew (21:34) took third place for the Vikings while Claire DevlescHoward (23:06), Kloe Kiggins (23:29), Khloe Matlock (23:31), Kylie Conn (24:23) and Aubrey Jackson (24:45) sixth, ninth, 10th, 14th and 17th places respectively.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

# Buchanan football falls to White Pigeon 16-9

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

BUCHANAN — The Buchanan football team fell to visiting White Pigeon Friday night in a slugfest.

Trailing 8-0 in the second quarter, quarterback Jake Franklin connected with Tyler Baker on a 38-yard touchdown grab to make it an 8-6 game at halftime. A White Pigeon touchdown run and a 33-yard Mason Frontczak field goal in the third quarter rounded out scoring. The Chiefs outgained the Bucks 273-156 in total yards and 273-30 on the ground.

Franklin completed 10 of 19 passes for 126 yards and one touchdown pass. Leland Payne had 29 rushing yards on seven carries and Baker had 3 catches for 56 yards while Tristan Nesbitt added 3 catches for 41 yards.

On defense, Jameson Pleasant led the team with 12 tackles and Brody Reed added 11 tackles and an interception while Baker, Ryan Hickok and Tyler Pelletier tallied 10 tackles apiece.

Buchanan (1-1) hosts Ottawa Lake Whiteford at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Hunt-Thompson helps Ferris State earn 56-3 win over Lake Erie

COMMUNITY REPORT

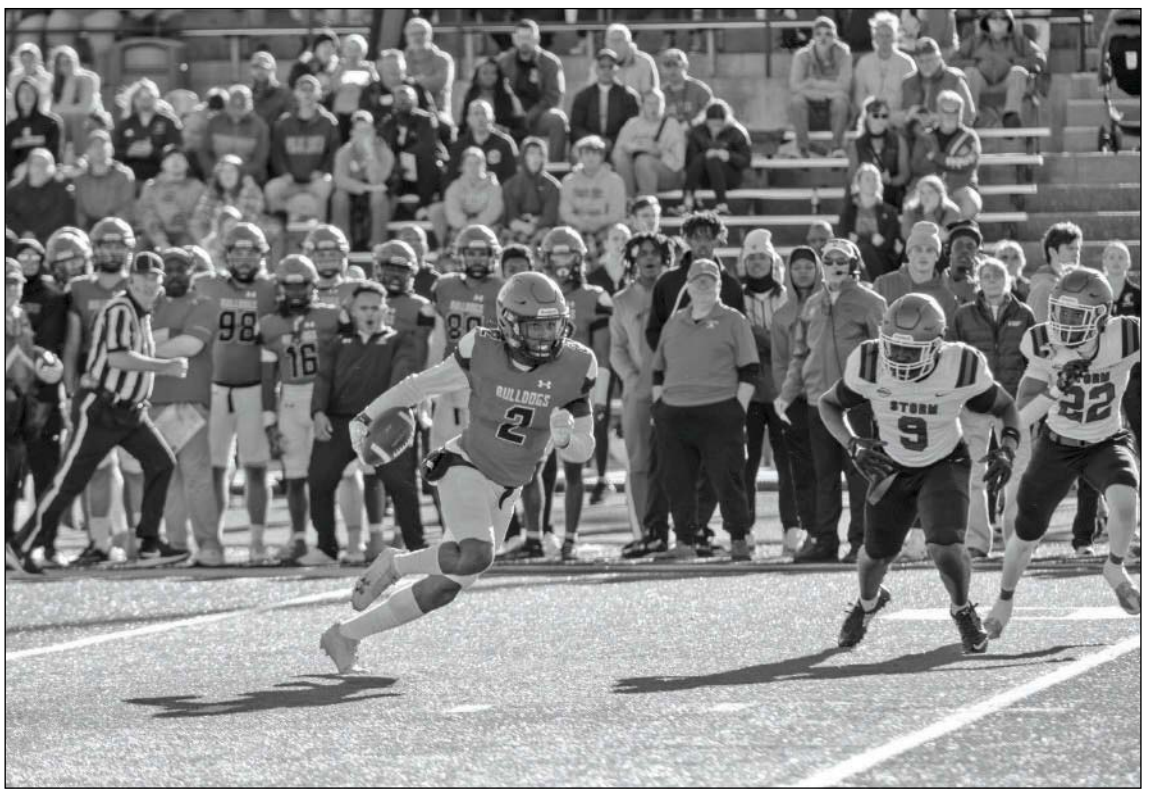

PHOTO COURTESY OF FERRIS STATE ATHLETICS

BIG RAPIDS — The Ferris State University Bulldogs put on a show in the home opener on Saturday, Sept. 7, dominating visiting Lake Erie by a 56-3 score at FSU's Top Taggart Field.

Before a crowd of more than 6,000 fans, the Bulldogs rolled up 35 points in the opening quarter and held a 49-3 lead at halftime en route to the win. FSU totaled 654 yards of offense in the triumph.

Former Cassopolis Standout Tyrese hunt-Thompson had two catches for 49 yards and FSU junior quarterback Trinidad Chambliss completed 16-of-22 passes for 246 yards and three scores in directing the FSU attack.

Defensively, the Bulldogs limited Lake Erie to only 144 yards of total offense, including only 67 rushing yards on 33 carries. FSU also came up with a pair of turnovers on the defensive side.

The Bulldogs opened the scoring on the opening drive of the game as FSU marched 75 yards in six plays for a score. Chambliss tallied his first of two rushing touchdowns from nine yards out.

On FSU's second drive, Chambliss again capped the effort with a 14-yard run to finish a five-play, 63-yard jaunt, making it 14-0 less than five minutes into the tilt.

Ferris State junior quarterback Carson Gulker engineered the next Bulldog drive, finding tailback Kannon Katzer on a 20-yard scoring throw midway thru the initial period to finish off a three-play, 25-yard drive that was setup by an interception from senior linebacker Konnor Near.

Lake Erie scored its lone points of the game on a 19-yard field goal late in the first period, but FSU responded with two more scoring drives to make it 35-3 after one. Markel King found pay dirt with a one-yard carry with 2:35 to go in the period before Jeremiah Lee hauled in an 18-yard scoring throw from Chambliss with 45 seconds to go.

In the second period, Ferris State's Taariik Brett notched a score with an eight-yard reception from Chambliss, capping a five-play, 51-yard jaunt. The Bulldogs then scored their final points of the first half when Chambliss hooked up with King on an eight-yard TD connection with 6:33 to go before the break.

The lone points of the second half came when junior back James Coby reached the end zone to start the fourth quarter on a three-yard carry.

Lee led FSU in the receiving game with four catches for 59 yards. Katzer caught three balls for 61 yards. Gulker paced FSU on the ground with 67 yards on two carries, including a 64-yard run that ended at the Storm's one-yard line.

The Bulldogs will host the Ashland Eagles next Saturday, Sept. 14, in a 6 p.m. (ET) contest at Top Taggart Field.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

KELLY SWEENEY | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

# Buchanan blanks Brandywine 3-0

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

BUCHANAN — The Buchanan boys soccer team shut down Brandywine 3-0 Wednesday in Lakeland Conference play.

The Bucks received goals from Alex Martini (33'), Easton May (35') and Nico Sanchez while Charlie Conway made three saves to earn his fourth shutout of the season. Jacob Kuntz tallied two assists to bring his season total to five. May has five goals and seven assists on the season and Martini and Sanchez earned their first goals of the season.

"We did an outstanding job keeping possession of the ball and generating offense," said Buchanan coach Ryan Haines. "It took a while but once we finally broke the deadlock we got another goal quickly to gain separation. It was great to see freshman Nico Sanchez and German exchange student Alex Martini tally their first goals of the year."

# GRAD

Continued from page B1

can be for a school and everyone really came together. We have had guys here for 18 months now, just grinding and working and we finally get to hit the other quarterback and players. I think you could really tell we were hitting hard, we were aggressive, you know, we're non-stop, we kept running at the ball the whole time. I thought we really fed off the atmosphere and energy."

Hill's play on Chris Taylor Alumni Field has taken him to the bright lights of NCAA college football. For Hill, it would not have been possible without the support from his family, friends, and the greater Dowagiac community, many of whom were able to watch the game online.

"We get in the locker room and my phone is going off," he said. "It made me really happy to see everyone from back home come together. Dowagiac is a small community but everyone is so caring. It's been great seeing people go out and buy gear and tell me how proud they are. Seeing people reach out felt great because I have a community that loves and supports me so much."

Prior to starting fall camp, Hill was able to train with his cousin, Tennessee Titans linebacker Caleb Murphy.

"It's been great," he said. "I was able to work with him this summer. With me switching to D-Line from linebacker, he was definitely able to help me work out this summer. He's one of my biggest mentors and I probably couldn't do a lot without him."

While earning the first-ever win in program history was exciting, Hill and his teammates are far from satisfied. The Knights aim to "shock the world" this season and compete for the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship.

"We want to win the conference," "They have us predicted low but I think we're going to shock a lot of people and show them what Calvin football is all about."

PHOTO COURTESY OF CALVIN UNIVERSITY

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

# WIN

Continued from page B1

that Rucker was not 100 percent.

"It's nice to have Paulie back because he's great at seeing the little seams and stuff that you got to be able to see and he's just a good football player," Shaw said. "Sam's a good football player."

In the third quarter, a 10-yard Norris touchdown run and a 32-yard touchdown pass play from Bennett to Gordon rounded out the scoring for the game. Lakeshore was threatening in the closing minutes of the game before the Vikings stopped the Lancers on fourth down.

"We talked at halftime about being able to finish and a little bit of maturity," Shaw said. "Because we got some new guys, most of these guys saw this game last year in the second half so I don't think that was a surprise. Our goal is just keep it rolling."

Lakeshore quarterback Landon Hall completed 9 of 21 passes for 84 yards and two interceptions by Brenden Olsen.

"I thought defensively, we did an outstanding job on what in the past has been one of our weaknesses and that's pass coverage," Shaw said. "They didn't even come close and I'm just as happy about that as I am scoring 46 points."

Bennett led the team in tackles with six while completing 2 of 3 passes for 54 yards and one touchdown and one interception. According to Shaw, they did not call a pass play when he found Gordon on the touchdown pass.

"He's a good athlete and he sees stuff," Shaw said. "We didn't run a lot of option tonight just because we were controlling the line of scrimmage. He threw the ball well."

*The Vikings faced Three Rivers on the road Friday night in Week 3 action. The recap of that game will be found online at leaderpub.com and will be in the Sept. 21 print edition of the newspaper.*

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# Public Notices

## Public Notices

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| Unit # | Name |
|---|---|
| 3 | Carla Burrel |
| 16 | Tyson Fuller |
| 52/53 | Robert Valentie |
| 56 | Nathan Thomas |
| 58 | Jonathan Stowe |
| 60 | Purnell Martin |
| 63/180 | Amber Schumacher-West |
| 99 | Jimmie Tayler |
| 108 | Terry Riege |
| 114 | Tellie Doan |
| 116 | Melissa Kaeding |

## Public Notices

| | |
|---|---|
| 145/468 | Michael Merritt |
| 166 | Crystal Tripp |
| 177 | Larry Wegrecki |
| 183 | Cindy Fisher |
| 184/66 | Mary Anderson |
| 195 | Daniel Beushauser |
| 214 | Amber Phillips |
| 217 | James Russell |
| 228/367 | Shawnette Booker |
| 258 | Briana Coon |
| 268 | Dan Hoft |
| 273 | Tony Pompey |
| 284 | Kathleen Peterson |
| 337 | Nikolas Wodatzke |
| 342 | Terrence Moss |
| 346 | DaMonica Williams |
| 363 | Nathan Langelan |
| 379 | Bobbie Helms |
| 389 | Parnell Jenkins |
| 390 | Larry Hungerford |
| 395 | Carl Backus |
| 418 | Melissa Hocker |
| 451 | Jean Fitch |
| 452 | Tyler Mahar |
| 486 | Leigh Anne Norris |
| 514 | Christopher Kohut |
| 529 | Robert Wojcik |
| 538 | Joe Rose |
| 541 | Nicole Hurt |
| 545 | Candy Whitmire |
| 557 | Michelle Richter |
| 613 | Nichola Jones |
| 628/499 | Altavious Stone |
| 638 | Britney Stanczyk |
| 657 | Andrew Jones |
| 661 | Rodney Prescott |
| 677/567 | Julie Potate |

Niles U-Stor-It, 1314 E. Main Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday September 28, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

| | |
|---|---|
| 23 | Henry Krueger |
| 30 | Curtis Sheldon |
| 49 | Miranda Wendzel |
| 53 | Pamela Murphy |
| 57 | Nathan Haynes |

J & J Storage, 2220 S. 13th Street and 2627 S. 11th Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday September 28, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

| | |
|---|---|
| 33 | Tammera Carbon |
| 60 | Samantha Williams |
| 79 | William Morris |
| 97 | Blake King |
| 140 | Ronnie West |
| 189 | Dawn Ngiramulei |
| 238/466 | James Diss |
| 263 | Tamara Holmes |
| 292 | The Woodshed Crafts |
| 343 | Linda Morris |
| 345 | Carol Morrow |
| 367 | Steve Dickey/Jackie Libertowski |
| 373 | Rhonda Sue Outlaw |
| 410/333 | Tina Hollis |
| 426 | James Schilling |
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1 The HughesNet Gen5 service plans are designed to deliver download speeds of 25 Mbps and upload speeds of 3 Mbps, but individual customers may experience different speeds at different times of the day. Speeds and uninterrupted use are not guaranteed and may vary based on a variety of factors including: the configuration of your computer, the number of concurrent users, network or Internet congestion, the capabilities and content of the Websites you are accessing, network management practices as deemed necessary, and other factors. When you connect to the HughesNet service using Wi-Fi, your experience will vary based on your proximity to the Wi-Fi source and the strength of the signal.
2. **Free standard installation** applies to new Lease subscribers only. Not valid with Purchase option. Limited-time offer. Restrictions may apply.
3. Per the "5th, 6th, 7th and 8th FCC Measuring Broadband American Reports." Go to: https://www.hughes.com/who-we-are/resources/press-releases/
- Minimum term required. Monthly service and early termination fees apply. Visit legal.HughesNet.com for details.
- HughesNet is a registered trademark of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, an EchoStar Company.

# DEALS ON WHEELS

## ZERO DOWN DELIVERS!

## ON THE SPOT APPROVAL

**2000 FORD RANGER STEPSIDE 4 X 4**
XLT, V-6, newer engine and transmission
VERY RARE
**Only $5,900**

**2009 NISSAN CUBE**
Just in!!
Super low miles
**Only $6,900**

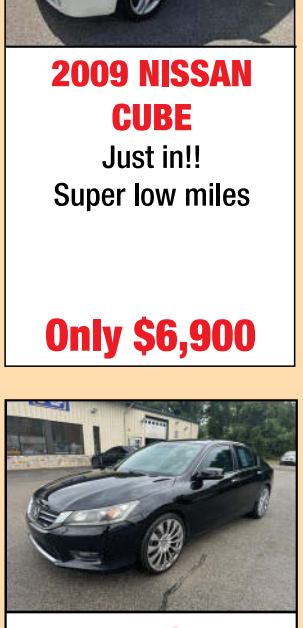
**2006 CHEVY SILVERADO 3500**
Flatbed big truck, little buck
**Only $9,900**

**2013 FORD FIESTA TITANIUM**
Just in!!
Every option, super low miles
**Only $9,900**

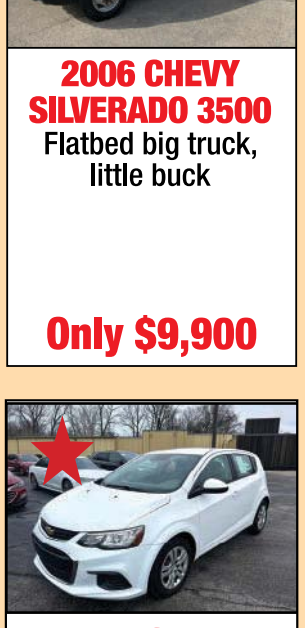
**2019 KIA SOUL**
Just in! Low miles!
**Only $11,900**

**2014 INFINITY QX60 AWD**
Luxury for less
**Only $14,900**

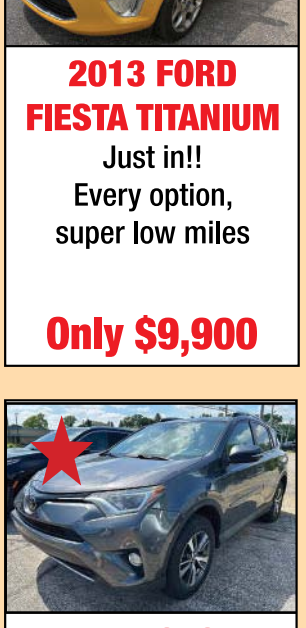
**2007 JEEP WRANGLER**
It's candy!!
**Only $14,900**



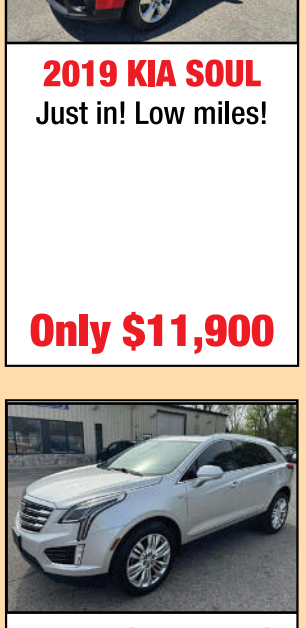
**2014 HONDA ACCORD LXI**
Just in!!
Every option with super low miles
**Only $14,900**



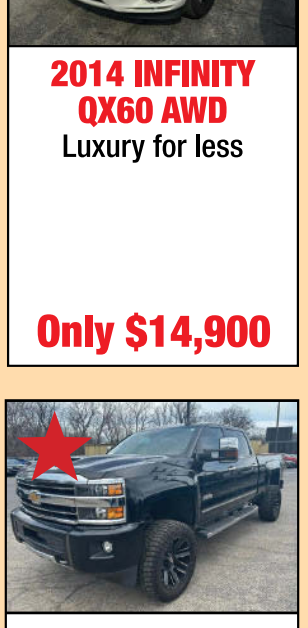
**2020 CHEVY SONIC LT**
Just in!! only 43,000 miles, off lease, one owner Showroom new to you
**Only $15,900**



**2018 TOYOTA RAV 4 4 X4**
Just in!!
These sell fast…
**Only $19,900**



**2019 CADILLAC XT5**
Just in!!
Fully serviced, perfect condition
**Only $19,900**



**2019 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW HIGH COUNTRY 4 X 4**
Jacked up Duramax with every toy!
**Must See!!**

**2018 FORD EXPLORER SPORT 4 X 4**
Just in!!
Perfect with low miles
**Only $21,900**

**2017 TOYOTA PRIUS PRIME**
Only 35,000 miles with every option
50 MPG's!!!
**Only $24,900**

**2022 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE CROSS AWD**
Just in!! Only 23,000 miles with every option
**Only $26,900**

**2003 CHEVY SSR**
BIG BLOCK,
SUPER RARE
Only 43,000 miles
**Only $29,900**

**2020 CHEVY TAHOE 4 X 4**
Just in!!
Save thousands
**Only $29,900**

**2020 HONDA PILOT EX-L 4 X 4**
Every option, fully serviced
Ready to go
**Only $29,900**

**2020 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB 4 X 4**
Just in!!
Ecoboost with only 46,000 miles
**Only $33,900**

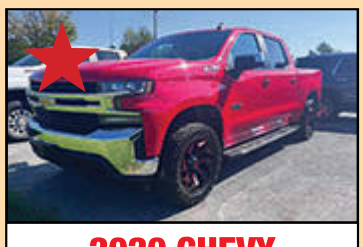
**2020 CHEVY EXPRESS EXTENDED CARGO**
Just in!!
Very rare. 6.0 litre V-8.
Only 47,000 miles
**Only $34,900**

**2019 CHEVY BOX TRUCK**
20ft, auto, a/c, super low miles
**Only $37,900**

**2019 RAM 1500 CREW LIMITED 4 X 4**
Every option, over $67,000 new.
Save huge!
**Only $37,900**

**2020 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA**
Just in!!
1 owner with only 46,000 miles
**Only $39,900**

**2024 CHEVY SILVERADO 4 X 4**
Just in!! Only 3,000 miles….Hard to find
**Only $39,900**



**2020 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW Z-71**
Oh So Purdy!
**Only $41,900**

**2020 CHEVY SILVERADO LT CREW 4 X 4**
Diesel,
Super low miles
Save thousands!
**Only $45,900**

**2020 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED MAXI 4 X 4**
Every option, super condition.
Get ready for winter now
**Only $49,900**

**2022 FORD F-350 DUALLY 4 X 4**
Just in!!
Like new in perfect condition
**Only $55,900**

**2021 CADILLAC ESCALADE ESV 4 X 4**
Just in!! Original MSRP $118,000
Save Huge!
**Only $84,900**

## SEE A STAR IT'S A 1 OWNER CAR

## 269-783-3325 • M-51 DOWAGIAC